

ICM-III Grading Policy 2007-2008

ICM-III is a letter-graded course. All graded evaluations are based on a student's ability to demonstrate proficiency in the course objectives. Please note, satisfactory completion of ICM-III is required for entrance into third-year clerkships.

GRADING GUIDELINES

Event weighting:

30%	Preceptor evaluation
50%	Clinical skills
	30% OSCE
	20% Graded H&P
10%	ROS Quiz
10%	NBME subject exam

Letter grades:

A	= 90 – 100% of total available course points
B	= 80 – 91%
C	= 70 – 79%
Non-passing	<70%

Graded events are designed with an anticipated class mean score of 80% or higher. Thresholds for letter grades may be adjusted in the event of an unanticipated low event scores at the discretion of the course director. Thresholds will not be adjusted upward.

ABSENTEE POLICY

Attendance at all ICM-III course activities is required. All absences, other than for students placed on quarters, require prior written approval from a course director. Preceptors and specialty session faculty are not permitted to grant excusals.

Attendance will be taken at each ICM session. Students who are absent from a session without a valid excusal, or who depart prior to the end of the session will receive a 5% total course point deduction. Each subsequent unexcused absence or early departure will result in a letter grade deduction.

AJUDICATION OF NON-PASSING GRADES

The mission of ICM-III is to insure students achieve basic proficiency in clinical skills requisite for successful performance in third year clerkships. The ICM-III faculty will make every effort to help students achieve proficiency in these skills.

Students who do not satisfactorily demonstrate proficiency in achieving course objectives will be referred to the Department of Medicine Education Committee (DOME) for a determination of fitness to enter MS3 clerkships. Students can be referred to the DOME for any of the following:

- Receiving a non-passing total score for the course (<70%)
- Receiving a non-passing preceptor evaluation
- Failing a clinical skills evaluation (OSCE or Final Graded H&P)
- Unethical or unprofessional behavior
- Failing to fulfill course objectives as determined by the course director.

The DOME will review the student's entire record for the course and recommend a final grade and/or remediation. If the DOME deems the student unprepared to begin clerkships, a grade of "F" will be awarded, and the student referred to the USU Student Promotions Committee.

Grades of "incomplete" due to missing course requirements will not be awarded. Students will receive a score of "0" for any incomplete requirements at the completion of the course, which will be used to calculate the final grade.

DESCRIPTION OF GRADED EVENTS

ROS QUIZ

Students will take a written examination demonstrating proficiency in generating questions from the review of systems from memory. Students will be asked to provide (5) ROS questions from (8) randomly selected ROS systems.

PRECEPTOR EVALUATION

The preceptor will evaluate the student's competency in obtaining a medical history, the physical examination, oral presentations, written reports, and demonstration of professional behavior. This will encompass the (4) comprehensive H&P sessions at the SimCenter, and the Focused H&P session.

SIMULATION CENTER GRADED HISTORY AND PHYSICAL:

This will be the fifth and final Simcenter history and physical exam patient encounter. You will be provided instructions and a specific scheduled date and time for the examination in advance. The duration of the exercise is 75 minutes. Preceptors will review and score student performance, either by direct observation or digital recording, using the same checklist you will be using for your videotape self-critiques. Grades will be determined based on the number of items correctly performed. The overall grading form to be used by the preceptors is included for your review in the syllabus. Note, this form may be modified slightly prior to the exam.

OSCE

The MS2 OSCE is a multi-station clinical skills exam. The purpose of the MS2 OSCE is to test your mastery of the basic clinical skills learned in the ICM series, and to familiarize you with a testing format similar to that used in the USMLE Step IIb Clinical Skills exam.

The OSCE will consist of six or seven stations lasting approximately 22 minutes each. At each station you will be asked to perform one component of the physical exam, or one component of the medical interview, or both. There may also be an oral case presentation station. You will have 17 minutes to perform the assigned task, then 5 minutes to complete a computerized post-encounter form. On the post-encounter form, you will be required to accurately describe your findings from the station.

The standards of performance for the interview and physical examination are based on the guidelines in the ICM-III course syllabus. You will be graded on your ability to correctly perform the assigned elements of the H&P, the accuracy of your findings as recorded on the post-encounter form, and on your interpersonal and communication skills. This is a test of your ability to synthesize all your knowledge and skills obtained through the ICM and ICR courses.

You will not be permitted to use any written materials during the OSCE. The content of the OSCE stations may not be discussed during the exam. Students who have completed the OSCE may not discuss any aspect of the OSCE until all students have completed the exam.

Your performance on the OSCE will be used for grading in ICM-III, and will also serve as the basis of an Educational Prescription for the MS3 year.

NATIONAL BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS (NBME) SUBJECT EXAM

The NBME "Introduction to Clinical Diagnosis" shelf exam covers material from both Introduction to Clinical Reasoning and ICM-III. The exam score is used as part of your grade for both courses.

The exam is designed to evaluate the student's knowledge base in physical diagnosis, and ability to analyze clinical problems. It utilizes a similar format to the USMLE step I examination and tests the ability of the student to assess data presented in a medical history format.

Detailed information on the subject content is available at the NBME website, www.nbme.org. In preparation for this examination, you should study your Introduction to Clinical Reasoning material, as well as your notes and readings from ICM-III.